

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 914

By Rich

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of James "Jim" Dee Matlock of Fayette County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely passing of James Dee Matlock; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Matlock was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, James "Jim" Dee Matlock was born on July 29, 1948, in Little Rock, Arkansas, to parents James D. Matlock Sr. and Christine Darnell Matlock of Macon, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a true American patriot, Jim Matlock was a Vietnam veteran who served in the United States Army as a Chief Warrant Officer helicopter pilot and a trained Army medic; and

WHEREAS, on December 29, 1969, Mr. Matlock was severely wounded, an injury that nearly took his life; the Purple Heart and Bronze Star were bestowed upon him for his bravery and service in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, following the war, Jim Matlock worked as a helicopter pilot for an off-shore oil rig company, P.H.I. Helicopter Company in LaFayette, Louisiana, before returning to Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Matlock returned to Fayette County and worked with the U.S. Postal Service for over twenty years, retiring from this position in 2000 to work in the family business, Brown's Service Center in Somerville; and

WHEREAS, Jim Matlock was a remarkably intelligent and understanding individual whose humble character reflected his selfless and giving nature; his friend, Buck Matthews,

described him as, "a war hero, a man possessing great character and who was himself a great character"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Matlock was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Jim Matlock enjoyed the loving companionship of Cynthia Brown Matlock for thirty-two years and was the proud parent of two sons, Sid (Mandy) Matlock and Jeremy (Becky) Matlock, a daughter, Dayne (Michael) Anderson, and the devoted grandfather to three grandchildren, Dora, HaleighGrace, and Olivia; and

WHEREAS, he will also be sorely missed but fondly remembered by his sisters, Judy Hatmaker and Jennifer Matlock, and nieces, Stacy Wimmer and Darcy Marshall, along with a host of other family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Jim Matlock leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of James "Jim" Dee Matlock, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Jim Matlock.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.